

## FRESH MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

**\*These requirements pertain to fresh milk and milk products being exported to Taiwan for human consumption. All export certificates for fresh milk or milk products for human consumption to Taiwan dated on or after January 17, 2012, must meet these requirements.**

**NOTE:** Shelf-stable dairy products for human consumption – products which are treated by ultra-high temperature sterilization (UHT) and packed in hermetically sealed containers, including containers made of metal, glass, retort pouches, plastic, and laminated materials, but which do not contain any preservatives, are believed to be excluded from animal quarantine requirements; and therefore, do not need to be accompanied by a sanitary export certificate. As always, exporters are responsible for verifying the requirements of the importing country.

### **General Instructions:**

1. VS 16-4, Export Certificate for Animal Products, must be used to certify fresh milk and milk products for human consumption for export to Taiwan. The VS 16-4A continuation page may be needed. Exporters are advised to follow the general instructions on the use of the VS 16-4, 16-4A, and combined VS 16-4/16-4A provided on the home page of the International Animal Products Regulations or IREGs:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/regulations/vs/iregs/products/>

2. The VS 16-4 for the export of fresh milk and milk products to Taiwan for human consumption will be endorsed by official veterinarians with the APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) Area Offices. The VS Area Offices can provide assistance to exporters on preparing notarized affidavits and address any other general questions about the export certification process, including how the certificates should be submitted for endorsement. Contact information for the VS Area Offices is available through the APHIS home page:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/area\\_offices/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/area_offices/)

3. Exporters requesting export certificates for fresh milk and milk products to Taiwan must be authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as the competent authority, to produce dairy products for interstate commerce and international trade. This authorization is often given by State or local agencies acting on behalf of the FDA. Exporters should be prepared to provide documentation\* that they are authorized to produce dairy products for commerce, if requested. This documentation may be from the FDA or a State or local government agency.
4. Exporters are advised to be sure they have export certificates endorsed PRIOR to shipping products. Taiwan will NOT accept shipments of any type of products if the export (sanitary) certificate is endorsed AFTER the date of shipment.

## **Product Attestations**

5. The government of Taiwan requires country of origin disease free certification for foot and mouth disease (FMD), rinderpest, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, and African swine fever. The VS 16-4 includes the following general animal health statement which satisfies this requirement: “This is to certify that rinderpest, foot and mouth disease, classical swine fever, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States.”
6. The additional information required by the government of Taiwan for fresh milk and milk products for human consumption will be included in the Additional Declarations section of the VS 16-4. These statements will be endorsed by APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) on the basis of a notarized affidavit provided by the exporting company with the exact statements to be endorsed.
7. The following information must be included in the “Additional Declarations” section of the VS 16-4.

“This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [insert company name] verifying the accuracy of the statements below.

1. The certified milk or milk products described below were manufactured by [insert name(s) and address(es) of manufacturing facility(ies)\* on the following dates [insert range of dates of product manufacture].
2. The above manufacturing facility(ies) is/are approved by the competent authority to produce milk or milk products.
3. The products were processed, handled, stored, and transported in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations to prevent the contamination of finished products with raw materials and/or animal disease pathogens.

\*Also insert the following declaration as 1a if the packages of the certified milk or milk products do NOT contain on the label the exact same company name and address of the manufacturing facility(ies) as noted above.

[Insert name and address of manufacturing facility] also produced the products included in this consignment labeled with the following company information [insert company name(s) and address(es) that appear on the packages in the consignment].”

8. The product manufacturers (names and addresses) must be identified on the certificate. This information should match the name and address of the companies identified on the package labels. IF there are packages in the consignment labeled differently (e.g., a distributor name/address) – the additional certification statement as noted above MUST be provided. Use a VS 16-4 continuation page if needed (the combined VS 16-4/16-4A). Place a note on the VS 16-4 (i.e., see page 2) and be sure the pages of the certificate are numbered (page 1 of 2, page 2 of 2). The notarized affidavit line must also precede any information provided on the continuation page.

9. Use a range of dates when there are multiple production dates. If a range of dates is used, do NOT include dates in the future. The date or range of dates should not include any date later than the date the certificate is endorsed.

### **Administrative Information**

10. Port: Identify the U.S. port from which the shipment will depart the United States.
11. Certificate Number/Date: Do NOT complete these sections. They are for official use only.
12. Typed Name and Title of Endorsing Official: Leave blank. This information will be completed by the endorsing VS Area Office.
13. Name and Address of Exporter/Name and Address of Consignee: Enter the relevant information about the exporter and importer (consignee).
14. Product (type of product, quantity, unit of measure, and animal product species of origin): Enter the product name(s), including the species of origin (e.g., bovine). Include the number and description of packages (type of packaging/weight of packages). For product in individual packages a “total shipment weight” alone is not sufficient.
15. Identification: Enter pertinent information sufficient to link the products being exported with the certificate (e.g., container numbers, lot numbers, or other similar identifying information appearing on other export documents accompanying the shipment).
16. Conveyance: Enter the relevant information.

### **Other:**

Exporters should work with the endorsing VS Area Office regarding the process for completing and submitting the export certificates for endorsement, together with the supporting notarized affidavits.

Please see attached “sample” VS 16-4. Please note on the sample provided, where additional information must be provided.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0579-0256. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average .5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

OMB Approved  
0579-0256

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

**EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR  
ANIMAL PRODUCTS**

Port:

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

Date:

Certificate Number:

This certificate is for veterinary purposes only. It is valid for 30 days after the date of signature (*in the case of transport by ship or rail, the time is prolonged by the time of the voyage*).

This is to certify that rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease, classical swine fever, swine vesicular disease, African swine fever, and contagious bovine pleuropneumonia do not exist in the United States of America.

**ADDITIONAL DECLARATIONS**

SIGNATURE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL:

TYPED NAME:

TITLE OF ENDORSING OFFICIAL:

**DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER:

NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONSIGNEE:

PRODUCT (*type of product, quantity, unit of measure, and animal product species of origin*):

IDENTIFICATION:

CONVEYANCE: